

NCA  
VOC FOR IOP/FN  
BACKGROUND NO. 5-5502  
DICK JOYCE

FEBRUARY 7, 1978

# INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

ANNCR:

THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE OPENS ITS TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING IN WASHINGTON TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 7).

VOA'S DICK JOYCE IS AT THE THREE-DAY MEETING AND HAS THIS BACKGROUND REPORT:

VOICE:

SINCE 1952, THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE HAS SERVED AS A PLATFORM FOR AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED IN RAISING THE LIVING STANDARDS AND FOSTERING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS IN THE SO-CALLED THIRD WORLD. THE ONE HUNDRED MEMBERS OF ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPRESENT A BROAD CROSS SECTION OF AMERICAN LIFE. THEIR ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATIONS INCLUDE BUSINESS, LABOR, AGRICULTURE, THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT, RELIGION, EDUCATION, AND THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SECTOR. THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE WILL FEATURE PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE U.S. CONGRESS, THE U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, THE UNITED NATIONS, THE WORLD BANK, AND SEVERAL PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS -- INCLUDING THE OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, WORLDWATCH INSTITUTE, AND THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. THE ACADEMIC WORLD WILL BE REPRESENTED BY SCHOLARS FROM SUCH INSTITUTIONS AS JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, AND THE U.S. NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION. REPRESENTING LABOR WILL BE SPEAKERS FROM AMERICA'S LARGEST UNION, THE AFL-CIO, AND THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION.

AMONG THE ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED DURING THE THREE-DAY CONFERENCE IS WHETHER OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS SHOULD BE A

PRE-CONDITION TO U.S. ASSISTANCE TO A DEVELOPING COUNTRY. THAT QUESTION WILL BE DEBATED BY AN AMERICAN CONGRESSMAN AND A FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR. WORKSHOPS DURING THE CONFERENCE WILL CONCENTRATE ON SUCH PROBLEM AREAS AS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS, THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT, INTERNATIONAL TRADE, THE CONTROVERSIAL MATTER OF MULTILATERAL CORPORATIONS, AND GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMS.

THE FINAL DAY OF THE CONFERENCE WILL EXAMINE SEVERAL ASPECTS OF AMERICA'S NATIONAL INTEREST IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THIRD-WORLD COUNTRIES. CONFEREES WILL HEAR THE VIEWS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF AMERICAN LABOR, AMERICAN FARMERS, AMERICAN BUSINESS, AND THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AT LARGE, AND THE U.S. CONGRESS.

AS DEFINED BY THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE, BASIC HUMAN NEEDS INCLUDE ACCESS TO SECURE SUPPLIES OF FOOD, HEALTH CARE INCLUDING FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES -- INFORMAL EDUCATION, AND THE RIGHT TO WORK FOR REASONABLE WAGES.

JS/RCS